

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY REPORTER.

UNDER THE SANCTION OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

CIV. VOL. IV.—No. 25.]

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[PRICE 4d.]

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY IN BRITISH INDIA.

TO HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY VICTORIA, QUEEN OF GREAT
BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

May it please your Majesty,

The Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society approach your Majesty with most respectful assurances of their loyal and dutiful regard.

They desire, in an especial manner, to express the satisfaction and delight with which they have become acquainted with an Act passed by the Honourable the President of the Council of India in Council, on the 7th of April, 1843, with the assent of the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India, entitled "An Act for declaring and amending the law regarding the condition of slavery within the territories of the East India Company."

Although the abolition of slavery is not expressly declared by this Act, the Committee are happy to perceive in its provisions which really effect this most important and salutary change.

Thus justified in regarding the passing of this Act as identical with the abolition of slavery in British India, the Committee cannot satisfy themselves without laying immediately at the foot of the throne an expression of their high gratification at this event, and of their thankfulness to the great Author of good that he has directed the councils of your Majesty to so beneficent an end.

That which was wanting to carry out consistently the principle of the great Act of 1833, which led to the liberation of nearly 800,000 slaves in the West Indies and other British colonies, has thus been in great part achieved; and an assurance has been given, that, by such subsidiary measures as yet remain to be adopted, the widely extended dominions of the British Crown shall not be permitted any longer to comprehend a slave.

That the Divine benediction may largely rest on the millions whose welfare this illustrious act of justice and benignity is adapted directly to promote, and on the Sovereign to whose name and rule it will be a perpetual honour, is the fervent desire of the Anti-Slavery Committee.

Signed on behalf of the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society,

THOMAS CLARKSON.

October 11, 1843.

REPLY.

Whitehall, November 6, 1843.

SIR,—I have had the honour to lay before the Queen the loyal and dutiful address of the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, expressive of their satisfaction at the Act lately passed in India, for amending the law regarding slavery in the territories of the East India Company.

And I have to inform you that the same was very graciously received by her Majesty.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) J. G. GRAHAM.

Thomas Clarkson, Esq.

ASHBURTON TREATY—THE TENTH ARTICLE.

TO THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF ABERDEEN, &c., &c.

MY LORD,—The Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society beg to draw your attention to the Act recently passed "for giving effect to a treaty between her Majesty and the United States of America for the apprehension of certain offenders;" the second clause of which act they cannot contemplate without serious anxiety.

The Act having provided in the first instance that, upon certain requisition by the United States, parties accused of certain crimes shall, upon certain evidence, be apprehended, goes on to provide in the second clause, "That in every such case copies of the depositions upon which the original warrant was granted, certified under the hand of the person or persons issuing such warrant, and attested upon the oath of the party producing them to be true copies of the original depositions, may be received in evidence of the criminality of the person so apprehended."

It must be very evident to your lordship, that depositions of the class here referred to may be not only erroneous in fact, and liable to satisfactory explanation, but deceptive in design, and the vehicle of a charge altogether unfounded. Nor is it at all impossible that papers presented as such depositions may be fabrications merely, fraudulently got up for a purpose.

That cases of this sort would be rare and highly improbable, in

the ordinary routine of judicial proceedings, the Committee would readily admit; but in the case of a fugitive slave, the eagerness of the pursuer to recover what he shamelessly calls his property, and the infamous frauds to which slave-owners notoriously have recourse with this view, fully warrant the suspicion that either the one or the other of the courses adverted to might without scruple be pursued.

The Committee cannot disguise from your lordship that they regard the clause in question as offering an enormous bounty to perjury and forgery, and as subjecting fugitive slaves to a dreadful system of kidnapping under forms of law.

They are quite aware that some degree of weight must, in the first instance, be allowed to depositions presented, whatever their character; but they must strenuously contend for the institution of all possible checks on the mischiefs to which the second clause of the Act opens so wide a door. And in particular they beg to submit to your lordship's consideration, whether instructions might not be sent out to the British functionaries in North America, directing them to send immediately home all depositions laid before them, in order to the apprehension of any person under this Act. In this case the documents would be not only subjected to the scrutiny of the Government and its law-officers in England, but would, through the tables of Parliament, be accessible to the public also.

No doubt can exist but that the chances of exposure thus arising would operate as a salutary check on a system of deception, which might otherwise be carried on with impunity to an unlimited extent.

I have the honour to be, my lord,

On behalf of the Committee,

Your lordship's obedient servant,

(Signed) THOMAS CLARKSON.

27, New Broad-street, October 11, 1843.

REPLY.

Foreign Office, October 27, 1843.

SIR,—I am directed by the Earl of Aberdeen to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, enclosing a memorial signed by Mr. Clarkson, on behalf of the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, calling the attention of his lordship to the evils to be apprehended from the operation of the second clause of "the Act for giving effect to the treaty between her Majesty and the United States of America for the apprehension of certain offenders."

I am to state to you in reply, that her Majesty's Government are fully alive to the necessity of much caution and watchfulness in carrying into execution that Act of Parliament, and the stipulations of the treaty of the 9th of August, 1842, between her Majesty and the United States of America, on which it is founded. And I am to request that you will state to the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, that the greatest care will be taken to prevent the possibility of the occurrence of the evils anticipated.

I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

(Signed) CANNING.

J. H. Hinton, Esq.

THE DANISH WEST INDIES.

THERE are now in the Danish West Indies about 27,000 slaves, either originally introduced from Africa, or the descendants of those who were so. A few statements will reveal some of the deep injuries to which these unhappy beings have long been, and still are, subjected.

First among these we may notice the decrease of the slave population; a circumstance which, when it occurs in a country where the means of living are abundant, can be accounted for only by excess of labour, severe privations, or cruel sufferings.

The population of St. Croix was once much more considerable than it is at present. To go no further back than 1815, we find that it then amounted to 24,723. From that period to the close of 1840 the number of births among the slaves was 12,834, and that of deaths 16,780; being an excess of deaths over births of 3,946, nearly a sixth part of the population of the island in 1815.

To mitigate this appalling representation, it has been stated that, of late years, an increase of the slave population has taken place. There are, however, only three years out of the twenty-six in which this has been the case. These were the years 1832, 1833, and 1836, in which the excess of births over deaths was respectively 30, 65, and 25; while during the last four years the excess of deaths over births has been respectively 62, 74, 94, and 63. We subjoin an account of the births and deaths during the last ten years in St. Croix, extracted, with the exception of that relating to 1840, from the supplement to the *Fædreland*:—

STATEMENT OF POPULATION IN ST. CROIX.

Slaves above One Year old.																							
	Whites.	In towns.						In the country.			Total Males.	Total Females.		Total.	Total amount of Slave Population.	Slaves died.			Slaves born.			Excess of deaths over births.	Excess of births over deaths.
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.		Males.	Females.			Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.				
1831	1,589	1,103	1,613	2,716	8,505	8,798	17,303	9,608	10,411	20,019	20,518	219	280	499	340	306	646	147	30				
1832	1,491	1,061	1,616	2,677	8,469	8,721	17,190	9,530	10,337	19,867	20,413	267	279	546	276	240	516	..	65				
1833	1,535	1,010	1,525	2,535	8,402	8,828	17,230	9,412	10,353	19,765	20,293	247	280	527	242	220	462	..					
	Whites and Free Coloured.																						
1834	5,160	947	1,476	2,423	8,458	8,757	17,215	9,405	10,233	19,638	20,114	242	234	476	281	281	562	86					
1835	5,780	911	1,463	2,374	8,298	8,665	16,963	9,209	10,128	19,337	19,848	241	267	511	328	303	621	118					
1836	5,601	864	1,412	2,276	8,285	8,663	16,948	9,149	10,075	19,224	19,753	250	279	529	267	237	504	..	25				
1837	5,373	813	1,289	2,102	8,201	8,629	16,830	9,014	9,918	18,932	19,459	245	282	527	314	275	589	62					
1838	5,330	771	1,234	2,005	8,138	8,580	16,718	8,909	9,814	18,723	19,189	225	241	466	279	261	540	74					
1839	5,413	713	1,196	1,909	8,006	8,498	16,504	8,719	9,694	18,413	18,907	248	246	494	309	279	588	94					
1840								8,891	9,714	18,605				480			543	63					

In the island of St. John, where (as in St. Croix) the negroes are principally employed in sugar cultivation, the effect on human life is nearly similar. During the year 1840, in a population of 1,970, the births were 47, and the deaths 57.

To this fearfully convincing evidence of the deplorable condition of the Danish slaves, we shall add some collateral proofs. We avail ourselves, in the first instance, of the testimony of Commodore Dahlerup, a writer who appears to be strongly prejudiced against the emancipation of the negroes. In his "Sketches of a short visit to our West India islands in 1841," inserted in a periodical of which he is editor, entitled "Archives of the Marine," we find the following:—

"The old negro huts consist of stalks of rice plaited together, and plastered outside with clay, the roof being thatched with a thick covering of trash, the dried refuse of the sugar-cane. They have a miserable appearance, and resemble ruined bee-hives, with their overhanging eaves of straw. Nothing more miserable can be imagined, regarded as a human dwelling. There are serious disadvantages connected with this primitive mode of building, without speaking of the connexion which the greater or less convenience and neatness of the dwelling has with the progress of civilization. Worms soon get into these irregular roofs, in consequence of which they become pervious to the weather, to the injury of the negro's health, who suffers from no cause more than from damp."—No. 1, p. 32.

The remarks that immediately follow these evince to how great an extent the comfort and welfare of the slave depend on the pecuniary means or the inclination of the master:—

"On the King's plantations these changes [an improved and more durable mode of building the negro huts] will be introduced within a certain period; but a longer time will be required on private properties, where the expense may probably occasion some reluctance, as would be the case with us under similar circumstances. But in time it will be perceived to be the master's own interest," &c. &c.

In another place the same writer makes the following statement on the condition of the domestic slaves, and the influence they exercise on the general state of feeling and morals among the white inhabitants:—

"The house negro appears to me to be more of a slave, in the proper sense of the word, than the field slave, notwithstanding that his physical condition is much better, and that, in consequence of the example before

him, he stands on a much higher intellectual scale. He is more dependent, and more subject to the ill humour of his master; whilst, on the other side, the continual contact with him cannot be without pernicious consequences in the tone of sentiment which prevails in the families of the whites or owners, where, among other things, the conduct of the slaves, and the ideas connected with it, are impressed on the mind from the earliest age. I believe, also, that there were in past time many examples of cruel treatment of this class of slaves."—*Ibid.*, p. 45.

We cannot subscribe to the opinion, that the plantation slave is less exposed to ill treatment from bad temper or passion than the domestic slave. Are the owners of this species of property more likely to ill-treat their bondsmen than the manager or overseer, who has less interest in the preservation of the life and health of the slave, and whose business it is daily to exact from him severe labour during a long period of time, procured only by the infliction or the fear of punishment? Such a supposition is in the highest degree unreasonable; especially when it is known that, with few exceptions, the managers and drivers of estates are persons of the most demoralized habits.

The amount of labour exacted from slaves, and the very small period of rest, if any, which is enjoyed by them, may be estimated by an observation of Governor Scholtens, which we extract from some remarks made by him on some regulation recommended by the King for the amelioration of slavery:—

"In confining ourselves to his Majesty's most gracious recommendation, we cannot fulfil the long-cherished wish to abolish the Sunday market, to shut up the rum-shops on Sunday, and to encourage the negroes to go to church, which hitherto cannot be required of them, because Sunday has been the only day which has been allowed to them to work for themselves."—*Fædreland*, Oct. 13, 1840, p. 2504.

We shall next present the information incidentally given by Commodore Dahlerup respecting the state of morals in the colony:

"That which is still requisite to qualify the negro for entire political freedom, is the influence of regular marriage among them. So far as I know, this is hitherto a rare event; but without it constant manual labour cannot subsist, or even be imagined. Without marriage there is no family tie, no fixed home; the laws of heirship and inheritance have no application amidst the confusion of parentage arising from irregular connexions. To labour for the promotion of this object must be the most important that can be entertained at this moment. In the present state of development, perhaps, nothing more can be done in a direct manner. The Moravian brethren have long encouraged them in it, and not without fruit; but it is principally in the newly-established schools of instruction that we must place our hopes, and on the encouragement which can be given by the planters themselves to the generation which is gradually growing up, whose ideas will be raised by the religious and moral instruction they will receive, and by the greater self-respect which the knowledge that they more nearly resemble their fellow-men will produce. It is easy to imagine many ways in which the planters can encourage regular marriages, as giving married negroes a preference in the distribution of articles required by them; an exchange of negroes between masters, or their purchase, in order to bring married negroes together on the same plantation; a small marriage portion, and other encouragement to a common and regular living together in families; greater advantages and attentions given to these," &c.—*Ibid.*, p. 34.

On the important subject of morals we further give the following just and striking observations of Mr. Sylvester Storey, an intelligent citizen of the United States, contained in "Letters from the West Indies, relating chiefly to the Danish island of St. Croix, and the British islands of Antigua, Barbadoes, and Jamaica," 1838:—

"But it is in vain to expect, in the present state of human nature, that the marriage vows, however solemnly made, will be performed by slaves. To say nothing of their ignorance or want of moral principle, the husband and wife generally live on different plantations, often at a distance from each other of several miles; and consequently their intercourse is irregular, and often interrupted. It is next to impossible, under such circumstances, to maintain mutual confidence. Besides this, there is in slavery no place for the family affections. The children belong by law to the owner of the mother. They are his property. He feeds and clothes them; and, during their infancy, the mother is scarcely allowed time to give them the sustenance which their tender age requires. The father has no interest whatever in their maintenance, comfort, education, or future labour. He can neither bless them, nor be blessed by them. This slavery forbids. It takes the child from the arms of its natural guardian, and consigns it to one who has no other interest in its welfare than that its bones and sinews become strong for labour. Hence the sacred ties which bind families together in civilized society are unknown in slavery; and, with these ties, is destroyed the stronghold of virtue in the human heart. The result is an unrestrained licentiousness. And happy would it be if this state of things were confined to the slaves. Here, as in other slave countries, the evil spreads, both in spirit and form, through the community. The least iniquitous and disgusting shape in which it appears is the practice of taking coloured or black women as housekeepers, who are to all intents and purposes wives, except in name and respect. This system is very general among managers and overseers of estates, and is by no means unknown in the highest places of influence and authority."

There is strong evidence of the unwillingness of the Danish slaveholders to have an education in any degree efficient afforded to their slaves, in the early age to which daily teaching in schools is confined. The period is limited to eight years of age; the alleged motive for which, as stated by Commodore Dahlerup, is, that they "may be useful on the plantations, and be early accustomed to field work."—*Nyt Archiv*, &c., No. 1, p. 27.

The laws regulating the almost absolute power of the master in the Danish colonies are in general characterized as mild. They

leave, however, to the owner or manager abundant opportunity to inflict the most serious injuries upon the bondsmen.

The hours during which the slave may be worked are, during six days of the week, from sunrise to sundown, excepting the time allowed for breakfast and dinner, and with a partial exception of a day in each alternate week, out of crop time. This fact is incidentally stated by Governor Scholtens, in the document already noticed:—"On most plantations the negroes are allowed at least every other Saturday out of crop time, which, in six months, amounts to twelve days."

The punishments which may be inflicted on the slave without recourse to the magistrate are stated in the last ordinance, published in 1840, and intended to ameliorate the condition of the negroes. The act allows the master to inflict twelve stripes upon men, and six upon women, with a whip delivered out by the police-office. It admits also of solitary confinement during a limited period, with bread and water only. A reduction of the time usually allowed to the slave to work for himself, is likewise permitted as a punishment. To provide against an abuse of these powers, a change of masters is provided for in certain circumstances, and a right of application to the Governor-General. Facts which took place in the British West Indies, during the period of slavery, however, forbid us to attach any practical value to these enactments.

It is not allowed to a slave to possess a boat, or other means of water transport. The object of this regulation is, of course, to prevent the escape of the negro from slavery, in which many allege that he is happy and contented. How far this is from the truth is abundantly evident from the endeavours of the Danish slaves to effect their escape, to which repeated allusions occur in the papers, and from the recourse which is had by the authorities to the most determined methods of repression. It is well known that, in one instance, in which five slaves attempted to escape to a British island, they were chased by a boat belonging to a Danish man-of-war, and fired upon. One of the number was killed, a woman and a child retaken, and the remaining two escaped by swimming.

Further evidence of a kind sufficiently painful is to be derived from the general condition of the Danish colonies.

The exports of sugar from St. Croix are thus stated in the *Fæderlandet* of March 20, 1842:—

Ten years	1815—1824	25,400,000 lbs.
Nine ,,	1825—1833	24,100,000 ,,
Eight ,,	1834—1841	21,400,000 ,,

It thus appears that, notwithstanding the diminution of the slave population, and the diminishing fertility which characterizes all slave countries, the amount of produce has not fallen off to any considerable extent; a circumstance from which it may safely be concluded that there has been at least no relaxation—we might rather say there has been an aggravation—of the labour formerly required from the slave.

The circumstances of the Danish planters at St. Croix are thus exhibited in the *Fæderlandet* of April 2, 1841:—

"Of 151 sugar plantations, there are already 76 without resident owners; namely, 16 which have become the property of the state, and 60 which have fallen into the hands of foreign creditors (either as possessors or by mortgage), and are administered by persons authorized by them. The remaining 75 plantations partly belong to owners who alternately reside in Europe and in the colonies; but of these 75, there are at least 25 mortgaged for a sum beyond their value, their possessors being, consequently, wholly dependant on the Governor-General."

THE ARABIC TRACT.

To those who love justice and mercy among the Mahomedans.

To God be praise! The Beginner and Former of all; the Creator of the free and of the slave.

It being known that there are among the Mohammedans those who love justice and mercy, a Society in England denominated the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, who also love justice and mercy, and whose object is the abolition of slavery and the slave-trade throughout the world, are emboldened to raise a friendly voice (by means of this little book) for their assistance, and for the deliverance in particular, from slavery and death, of the poor desolate African slave.

God, the Almighty Creator, has made all men of one flesh and blood, to dwell upon the face of the whole earth. God, the only wise One, has also given, of his grace, reason, and an undying soul, to the black, as well as the white man. There is no distinction of people, nation, tongue, or colour, before His pure and holy eyes, who is the maker of all things, and who is powerful above all—to whom be praise!

We, therefore, the Society in England aforesaid, firmly believing this, declare it to be a great crime to buy and sell human beings, endowed by the Almighty with reasonable souls, or to hold any property in our fellow-creatures. We also believe that God, the most merciful, sees with displeasure and indignation the human race, the intelligent beings of his power, bought and sold like the brutes, which perish without knowledge.

Now we, the Society in England aforesaid, have been told (and we have heard it with great sorrow) that there are divers Moors or Mussulmans, merchants, who trade in black people; who buy and sell them as their own goods and property; who go long journeys across the Great Desert (Saharah), as far as the country of Soudan, taking merchandise with them, and then give this merchandise in exchange for black people, whom they afterwards bring to the coast of the sea, and sell them again as cattle in the market. We are told also that many of the poor black people so taken in ex-

change for merchandise die on their way to the coast of the sea, perishing, either in the sands of the desert, or by the cruelties inflicted on them, or by the want of food, or by the dreadful fatigue and hardships of the long and dangerous journey. This buying and selling of poor black people, attended with manifold sufferings, we, the society in England aforesaid, believe in our hearts to be a great crime in the eyes of the Almighty, all-just, and all-merciful God. And we give our reasons in detail.

1st. Because God has created all men, in all parts of the world, equal.

2nd. Because God has not given to man the right to hold property in his fellow-creatures.

3rd. Because God formerly declared, by the mouth of his holy prophets, that he who should steal a man and sell him should be put to death.

4th. Because man is too vicious in his nature to be intrusted with unlimited power over his brother.

5th. Because to be a slave-master is to have a hard heart, and to grow cruel towards our fellow-creatures; while to be a slave, is to be weak, vile, and miserable.

6th. Because to go across the desert to buy slaves in the country of Soudan, and to offer and tempt the chiefs of the country with the riches of merchandise, incites the strong people to make war against the weak people, in order to make slaves of them, and in order to sell them to the merchant slave-dealers in exchange for the merchandise.

7th. Because, if the slave-dealing Moors cannot buy slaves as prisoners of war, they then persuade others, as wicked as themselves, to steal innocent and quiet people, and sell them as slaves; to steal children from their parents, and parents from their children; to steal the wife from the husband, and the husband from the wife; making them all to weep and to wail bitterly.

Such actions must be most wicked in the eyes of the All-righteous and most merciful God—to whom be praise!

Now we, the Society in England aforesaid, implore all Mussulmans who are just and merciful to abandon these wicked practices of buying and selling the poor black people, made of the same flesh and blood as ourselves, and of buying and selling any people whatsoever. For since God is just, and these practices are unjust; since God is merciful, and these practices are unmerciful; God will certainly be displeased with, and will punish, all who make slaves, and barter in human flesh and blood.

But now, contrariwise, if the merchants will trade across the Desert, let them take merchandise, and bring merchandise in exchange, but not that of human beings, endued with reason, and an immortal soul.

We, the Society in England aforesaid, salute the Mussulmans of Africa and Asia, and say to them from our hearts, that the most just and merciful God can never be pleased with them while they buy and sell human beings. Our hope is, that all Mussulmans will learn to be just and merciful to all their brothers of the human race, and that God (to whom be praise!) may be kind and merciful to them, and to their children after them, for ever. Amen.

ADDRESS TO HIS EXCELLENCY, GEN. ANTONIO LOPES DE SANTA ANNA,

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MEXICO.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR,—Learning by the public announcement of the British Minister of Foreign Affairs, and from other sources, that an armistice has been proclaimed between the extensive republic over which your Excellency presides, and the province or republic of Texas, with a view to the opening of negotiations for the conclusion of hostilities upon such terms and conditions as may be hereafter agreed upon; and hailing, as the friends of peace, the prospect of thus seeing a termination of bloodshed and the numberless evils of war, we feel impelled at the same time by the duty which specially devolves upon us as the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, to avail ourselves of this opportunity (while we distinctly disclaim all political motives and influences) to press upon your Excellency, with respectful urgency, the consideration of the actual existence and possible extinction of personal slavery in Texas.

Encouraged by the noble sentiments which have been heretofore expressed by your Excellency upon the subject, and by the prompt and early rejection of the horrible system of slavery by the entire Mexican nation, we cannot but be confident that your Excellency and the Government of Mexico will cordially coincide with us in feeling, that the continuance of slavery in Texas, whether she shall be restored to her connexion as an integral portion of the mother country, or her independence shall be acknowledged, will be a deplorable calamity to the human race, and that its extinction would be a benefit of corresponding magnitude.

The different positions occupied before the world upon this great question by the two countries, have largely contributed to enlist the sympathies of all good men, during the recent struggle, in behalf of Mexico, and to arouse their just indignation against the rapacious and slave-holding spirit of the people of Texas.

From the documents issued by this Committee your Excellency will have learned, that they have felt convinced, upon the most conclusive evidence, that the severance of Texas from Mexico was planned, and the means for accomplishing it contrived, within the slave-holding portion of the United States; and that the annexation of the province to that republic has been ardently sought for with the express purpose of extending the dominion of slavery, and with the hope of maintaining that system of abominations against the

encroachments of the spirit of freedom at home, and of opening an unlimited outlet for their surplus slave population.

The extinction of slavery in Texas would assimilate the institutions of that country with those of Mexico, thus tending to consolidate, and render permanent, such amicable relations as may be established by the existing negotiations; while it would completely sever the people of the former country from their present close connexion and sympathy with the slave-holders of the Southern states. It would also tend to bring in a more virtuous and law-obeying population, upon whom Mexico might rely as a barrier interposed against the encroachments of the slave-holders, and their predatory attacks.

Your Excellency will, the Committee trust, permit these allusions to well-known events and tendencies in certain quarters, made in the hope that it may appear that the true policy of Mexico is not only compatible with, but highly favourable to, the procedure, which, as the friends of oppressed humanity, they wish to urge upon its Government.

They are most deeply penetrated with the desire that no arrangement shall be made with Texas on the part of Mexico, which shall in any manner sanction the continuance of slavery; but, on the contrary, that the present most favourable occasion should be seized to impose terms upon that country which shall result in its immediate and total abolition. The desire of the people of Texas for peace, the comparatively unprofitable character of slavery, especially at the present time, and some existing indications that a conviction of the evil nature of the institution is becoming prevalent among them, encourage the hope, that it is, at this moment, in the power of your Excellency to secure the accomplishment of this glorious object—an achievement which all Europe would regard as conferring a more lasting honour upon your name than a thousand victories.

The Committee, therefore, as the representatives of the great anti-slavery body of this country, respectfully but earnestly address your Excellency, that the abolition of slavery in Texas may be peremptorily insisted on in any negotiations which may be had with that country; and that no effort may be left untried to bring the people of Texas to agree to so just an arrangement. Such an event would be hailed with the utmost joy by all the friends of the slave in every part of the world, not only from considerations connected with the personal liberation of those now held in bondage in Texas, but from the immense influence which it would exert upon the continuance of slavery in the United States themselves. Instead of Texas then becoming, as has been feared by the Committee, and intended by the slaveholders, a new and extended theatre for the employment of slave labour, and for carrying on the nefarious traffic in human beings, it would, as a country enjoying free institutions, such as Mexico has proclaimed to the world, become the source of a most powerful counter influence upon the very borders of the slave region, threatening the speedy downfall of the system even there.

That such a result is greatly desired by large numbers of the most respectable and excellent citizens of the United States we are well assured,—men who sympathise in no degree with the slaveholding and slavery-propagating portion of the population. And the bare possibility that it may be secured renders Texas at the present moment, however unimportant in other respects, a country of great interest to the friends of abolition.

We trust, therefore, that your Excellency may be impressed with the importance of the subject, and be enabled, by the overruling hand of God, and in the exercise of great wisdom, to produce out of the present unhappy and unpromising condition of affairs in Texas, an indescribable and permanent blessing to the world.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

THOMAS CLARKSON.

London, October 6, 1843.

ANTI-SLAVERY CONVENTION, 1843.

Preparing for Publication, under the sanction of the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, and will be issued early in the ensuing month,

A FULL REPORT of the PROCEEDINGS of the RECENT ANTI-SLAVERY CONVENTION; including the Speeches delivered, the Documents presented, and the Resolutions proposed, with the Decisions thereon. In one handsome octavo volume, price 7s. 6d. By J. F. JOHNSON, Short-hand Writer.

Subscribers are respectfully requested to furnish their names to Mr. Johnson, 2, Charles-square, City-road; to Mr. Snow, the Publisher, 35, Paternoster-row; or to the office of the Anti-Slavery Society, 27, New Broad-street, by the 4th of December, after which they will be too late for insertion in the printed list appended to the volume.

NOTICES.

THE ANTI-SLAVERY REPORTER is an Evening Paper, published on alternate Wednesdays, and may be had of all News-venders throughout the country. Price 4d., or 8s. 8d. per annum.

The Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society beg very earnestly and respectfully to call the attention of their friends to the subject of Funds, and to urge upon them the necessity of liberal contributions in aid of the great objects the Society has in view. Subscriptions and Donations to the Society should be forwarded to the Treasurer, (G. W. Alexander, Esq.) at the Society's Office, 27, New Broad-street, London.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The letter signed "Anti-Slavery" contains matter which cannot be published anonymously.

The Anti-Slavery Reporter.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 29, 1843.

ACCORDING to our promise, we insert to-day the address presented to the Queen by the Secretary of State for the Home Department, on behalf of the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, in relation to the abolition of slavery in British India, together with the note of Sir James Graham, intimating her Majesty's "very gracious" reception of it.

We insert also another document of some importance; a letter sent by the Committee to the Secretary of State for the Foreign Department, in relation to the operation of the extradition clause of the treaty of Washington. The reply directed by the Earl of Aberdeen encourages our hope that a practical and effective jealousy will be exercised. We are happy to know that, up to the latest date, no application had been made to British functionaries under the treaty.

A third document for which we are happy enough to find room to-day, is an address which the Committee forwarded some time ago to General Santa Anna, President of the republic of Mexico. The Committee transmitted an address at the same time to General Houston, President of the republic of Texas, which we shall endeavour to give in our next.

We recently made mention of a tract on the subject of slavery, of a tenor suited for distribution among Mohammedan nations. We have inserted this tract in a preceding column. It has been kindly translated into the Arabic language by the Rev. Professor Lee, of Cambridge; and a supply of them has been forwarded to Gibraltar, for the use of Mr. Richardson. Measures are in progress for its distribution in Egypt, and other eastern countries.

THE West India mail which has arrived since our last brings unusually cheering accounts from Guiana, Antigua, and Trinidad, to which we refer with pleasure. It supplies us also with some further information respecting the (so called) liberated slaves in Surinam. It is stated that the efforts of the Commissioner, Mr. Schenley, to procure their liberation, are thwarted by every obstacle, and punished with every indignity, and every species of discomfort, which the enraged slaveholders can invent and dare to offer him. His life even is threatened, and he has been cautioned, by an unknown but friendly observer in the colony, not to walk the streets of Paramaribo after nightfall. All this shows that the Dutch planters have been touched in a tender place; but it will not, we hope, have the effect of intimidating, or even of discouraging Mr. Schenley in his meritorious exertions. We trust he is well supported by the Government; but he may rely upon it that his endeavours are highly appreciated by the British public, and that they will win for him golden opinions from every friend of humanity and justice.

We had intended to make some additional remarks on the case of Pedro de Zulueta; but the length of an article which we take from the *Patriot*, and which is far too important to be omitted, straitens us for room. It will be long before the last of this important case will be heard of.

UNDER the head of Foreign Intelligence we have inserted an ordinance respecting the slaves in the island of St. Bartholomew, which it has pleased the King of Sweden to publish in the *Stockholm State Gazette*. We hail the document as an indication that the movement on the subject of slavery is extending itself in this direction; but in other respects it is far from satisfactory. Wretched indeed must the condition of the slaves have been hitherto, if this ordinance, even supposing it to be faithfully executed, will effect much improvement in it; and most miserable does this little modicum of amelioration look by the side of the great act of British emancipation, and within hearing of the loud call for freedom to the slaves which now resounds throughout the civilized world. The nations expect much more from Sweden than this.

We direct attention to an article in a subsequent column, on the Abyssinian slave-trade. The narrator of the revolting facts detailed is personally known to us, and his statements may be most fully relied on.

ZULUETA AND HIS IMPRUDENT FRIENDS.

(From the *Patriot*.)

AN effort has been made to excite a little sentimentality for Pedro de Zulueta, on the pretence that, whether guilty or innocent, the course of proceeding was needlessly harsh; that to appeal to a Grand Jury in the first instance, was not only unprecedented in practice, but gratuitously malicious. Drowning men catch at straws, and to snatch away the straw seems wanton cruelty; but we loathe all this false humanity of affected pity, and therefore we think it worth while to show that, even on this minor ground, Zulueta has no cause for complaint. There are two very sufficient reasons for the course taken by the prosecutor. As it respects the man himself, it was real kindness to submit the matter to a Grand Jury in the first instance; for, had the bill been thrown out, the charge would have remained unknown to everybody except the jurors and the prosecutor: the former are bound by their oaths not to disclose it; the latter would obviously have lain under a restraint of scarcely inferior obligation; he would have subjected himself to all the penalties of a malicious prosecution. Thus Zulueta might still have carried his head erect, how unworthily soever, on 'Change.

But there is a second and yet more emphatic reason: this prosecution was, in all respects but one, a state prosecution. The exception is serious

certainly; for it has not been conducted by the state authority; why not? will be a serious question hereafter; but the prosecutor undertook it on good and sufficient warranty that government would adopt it, and hence he was bound to follow the same course that would have been taken by the law officers of the Crown. The practice of the Crown, not, perhaps, universally, but in almost all cases has been, to go immediately before the Grand Jury. We need not search very far back for precedents. In the pending prosecution against Mr. O'Connell, and in several instances in the prosecutions in Wales, this has been the course adopted; but even in proceedings very similar, at the instance of private individuals, the same practice has obtained. About the year 1813, some parties of high commercial rank, more than equal to Zulueta's, were guilty of fitting out a privateer to cruise against vessels sailing under British licenses: the offenders were a merchant, who had been a bank director, his son, and their partner. Lloyd's committee prosecuted the two latter, and, on this occasion, the indictment was the first step taken by the most eminent solicitors in the city, or, perhaps, in the whole profession, Messrs. Kaye, Freshfield, and Kaye. There was no previous inquiry before a magistrate, nor any intimation given to the accused parties, till, on the bill being found, they were taken on a judge's warrant. This case is well known by the name of the *King v. Bogle French*. And why, we ask, is Pedro de Zulueta, charged with the felonious offence of slave-trading, to be treated with more ceremony than the firm of a bank director charged only with a misdemeanor? What is there, either in the crime or in the status of this person, that entitles him to peculiar and marked favour? Is it pretended that he was ignorant of the suspicion of his guilt?—that it was equitable to give him the opportunity of hearing the evidence against him? Ridiculous! The man knew so well the suspicion, the charge, and the ample ground for it, too, that, only twelve months previously, he volunteered an examination before the Commons' committee to acquit himself of it. Talk of surprise, indeed! The only surprise that he could possibly have felt was, that he had been allowed to escape so long with impunity.

But Sir George Stephen has been accused of the inhumanity, the rude discourtesy, of apprehending him in his counting-house. It happens to be the fact, that policemen were in attendance the whole day after the bill was found, to apprehend him elsewhere. But that is immaterial. We should like to know when it occurred that a man charged by the Grand Jury with felony was ever consulted by prosecutor or policeman, where it might suit his convenience to be taken into custody? We have some idea that such extraordinary courtesy would be deemed strong evidence of an intention, or, at least, a disposition, to compound the felony. Suppose, for a moment, that Sir George had given him notice, and good-naturedly written, with "his compliments to Mr. Zulueta, requesting to know when it was convenient for him to go to Newgate," and that thereupon Mr. Zulueta had found it more convenient, as he doubtless would, to go to Cadiz; what would have been the common opinion of Sir George's honesty? What an outcry there would have been, that wealth had purchased the very courteous intimation!

But it is not on the prosecutor's account that we wish to set this matter straight; for him it is unnecessary; but we are anxious to divest the minds of good-natured simpletons of all this mawkish sentimentality, because it tends to obscure the heinous character of the crime itself. Whatever Zulueta, or his friends the bankers and brokers who vouch for him, may think of it, slave-trading is not only an atrocious and detestable offence in the sight of God, for which, perhaps, they care but little; it is also odious, mean, and degrading in the sight of man, for which, we suspect, they care far more. To enjoy a house and an equipage in style, in the Regent's-park, bought with the bodies and souls of miserable fellow-creatures—to pay your servants' wages with the limbs of helpless children reduced to sterling value of sixpence a pound—to discharge the butcher's bill with the net proceeds of a hundred "bulto" at Havana, after deducting a *per contra* for their fathers and mothers thrown overboard to feed the sharks; these are matters which Englishmen regard with abhorrence and disgust, (whatever Spaniards may do,) not merely for their inherent guilt, but for the baseness, the contemptible meanness of the wretch who views them only as *affaires de bureaux*. A paragraph lately went the round of the papers, under the head of "Naval Intelligence," (and even the *Times* and *Herald* inserted it, *mirabile dictu*.) stating that the *Arrogante* had been captured by one of her Majesty's vessels, with three hundred slaves on board: her cargo had originally consisted of five hundred, but they were reduced to three, by want of provisions; and, as the wretched beings died off, their bodies were consumed as food by the survivors! It is just possible that the name may be common to more than one Spanish slaver, or we should ask Zulueta whether this is the same vessel that he acknowledged to the committee having purchased, in the same manner as he did the *Augusta*? But while, in the absence of specific information, which we will do all in our power to obtain, we are cheerfully willing to doubt, for the present, its identity; we ask not only him, but Mr. Jones Lloyd, Mr. Halifax, and more especially Mr. James Cook, of the house of Truman and Cook, all of whom volunteered their evidence in favour of Zulueta's high moral character, whether a system of which compulsory cannibalism forms an ingredient, can be other than horribly revolting, not to the conscience, (for with Christians that question is superfluous,) but to the taste, the generosity, the noblesse, if we may so use the word, of every civilized mind? Suppose that the *Arrogante* had effected her voyage, and landed the 300 survivors; and suppose, further, (we say it only hypothetically, and without, for one moment, pretending that this *Arrogante* was Zulueta's *Arrogante*.) that the net proceeds of these survivors found their way into his pocket in the shape of commission upon a return cargo of cochineal, or into Cook's pocket as colonial broker of that cargo, it is surely scarcely even metaphorical to say, that every drop of their iced champagne must savour of blood, every mouthful of their venison be high with the corruption of the worm.

On what pretext, then, is a crime so rank, so horrible that fancy cannot equal it, so mean that cowardice would blush at its commission, to be treated with more indulgence, more tenderness for the feelings, more consideration for the rank of the offender, than the petty larceny of the starving wretch that steals a loaf to feed a famishing family? He ruins no soul, much less thousands upon thousands of souls; he invades no home, rich in domestic comfort; he is no cannibal, feeding on turtle-soup concocted from human bones by the patent digester of a slave-ship. So far

as the judgment of a Grand Jury goes—so far, indeed, as the charge of a judge of the land goes—Zulueta was guilty of each and every of these heinous crimes, though a Petit Jury, and therefore law, has absolved him; but, till thus whitewashed, why, in the name of all that is rational, was he to be the commiserated object of whining tenderness and pining pity? Had Sir George Stephen been weak enough to give in to nonsense of this kind, we should have despised him, for we should have distrusted both his courage and his integrity.

We have yet a word for Mr. Zulueta, but not a parting word; for we suspect that we shall yet have much to say to him when Parliament meets. A very eminent lawyer has been consulted on the point, whether his falsehood about the payment of the loss on the *Augusta* is punishable, and he has advised that it is indictable; we trust, therefore, that he may yet have the satisfaction of finding that the dock of the Old Bailey is the best of all offices in which to obtain a character. An Old Bailey character is an admirable letter of credit for a British merchant! Don't you think so, Messrs. Lloyd, Halifax, and Cook?

THE SLAVE-TRADE IN ABYSSINIA: A PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

On the 10th February in the present year, I left Farree, the frontier town of Shoa, on my return home from Abyssinia, in company with Captain Harris, the late ambassador to the Court of Shoa, a retinue of officers and servants, and a kafila of slaves, in number about 130 or 140. Part of these slaves belonged to the owners of the camels employed by the mission, and part were the property of regular slave-dealers, who sought the protection of Captain Harris's escort, from the numerous tribes of Bedouin robbers which infest the Adal country, through which our journey lay. More than two-thirds of these slaves were girls under the age of fourteen, and many of these not more than eight years old. The remainder consisted of boys from the age of ten to fourteen, and three or four young women. One of the boys, I should mention, was an unfortunate victim of the savage custom in Abyssinian warfare of emasculating all the male slain, and the boys under six years old, who alone are allowed to be made prisoners. This boy, who was named Affrano, had been thus rudely mutilated, besides receiving a severe sword cut in the leg, and now, scarcely seven years old, was expected to walk 350 miles, at the quick marching rate, of what I may call our *express* journey. He was destined for the market of Mocha, or Cairo, or even of Constantinople, to serve in the character of eunuch to the harem of some rich Mahometan.

The sad condition and weak state of this poor dismembered child excited the compassion of us all; and Captain Harris, much to his credit, ordered him a mule belonging to the mission, or he certainly could never have reached Tadjourah alive. I do hope that when the excusers of Mahometan slavery become acquainted with the common occurrence of similar cases, and with the filthy purposes and cruel practices of which the slaves required for Islam markets are the unhappy victims, they will cease their advocacy of a traffic which exceeds in moral delinquency all that can be urged against the supporters of the Atlantic slave-trade.

During our journey to the coast I observed that some few of the girls, who promised considerable profit by reason of their beauty, were allowed to ride, on alternate days, the camels or the mule of their owners, but of this class there were but four or five; the rest, with the exception of one, who was ill all the way and indulged with a camel, walked with astonishing spirit and gaiety to the last day of the journey; some of the innocent little things, beautiful as childhood ever is under a white or a dark skin, singing, and laughing, and chatting the whole way down.

The boys, on the contrary, literally watered the road with their tears, as they ran limping and naked before their brutal driver, a boy not more than fifteen, who ambitiously endeavoured to prove his right to the character of being a young "Sheitan," (devil,) a name which some of our party, with incautious indignation at his unnecessary cruelty, had bestowed upon him, and which he received as a compliment, and sought by increased severity still further to deserve.

To account for this striking difference in the sustaining power between the male and female slaves, it must be attributed to the far better condition of the girls at the commencement of the journey, whose appearance of course influences the merchant in laying out his money, and the state of their health is with him a primary consideration. In the purchase of boys, their cheapness is the only inducement, and the consequence is that only the weak and delicate are selected for the distant market.

The most disgusting circumstance connected with the transit of the slaves from Abyssinia to Tadjourah, is the lascivious conduct of the owners or their friends towards the younger girls. Not only have I myself been the unwilling auditor of the forcible violation of these young creatures, but I have heard other officers state that similar incidents have occurred in their watch.

More than one half of these slaves, I believe, were Christians of Gurague, or of Guarea. Some even wore the "matab"—of leather, certainly, but still pointed out to me as a proof of the fact. The matab is generally a string of blue or white silk fastened around the neck, and is in these countries the distinguishing badge of Christianity.

We arrived on the coast on the 15th of March, having travelled 350 miles in a period of thirty-six days, on an average nearly ten miles for each successive day; but on some occasions it was considerably more, to make up for delays at two places, one of four and another of two days, which occurred during our march. It is scarcely conceivable how such children could accomplish it, but they actually did; the girls tired, and the boys nearly dead, certainly; but not one death took place—a matter of great congratulation among the traders and their friends, who never before recollected a case so similarly fortunate, and this they assured us was an evidence of our party possessing the favour of God to an unusual extent.

Leaving the slaves at Ambabboo, a small fishing village in the bay of Tadjourah, I received a passage to Aden on board the Indian Government's sloop of war the *Clive*. At Aden I remained five weeks, and then, in company with the Padre Antonio Foggart, a Propaganda missionary, we engaged a cabin in the ship *Saliman Shah*, belonging to Calcutta, navigated by native British subjects, and bound to Jeddah, to which place I was proceeding. The day after leaving Aden we anchored off

Mocha, and lay in that port nearly a fortnight, and received on board, much to my surprise, some old acquaintances of mine, Mahomed, a Dankalli slave-merchant, and seven of the slaves who accompanied us down from Abyssinia, and who immediately recognised me as "Aliu Amba arqueem nobba"—the Aliu Amba doctor, being the name I was known by in their country. I was vexed to see the English flag thus shamefully abused, and under the observation of a rather severe commentator (the Padre Antonio) upon the policy of England as regards the slave-trade. Situated as I was I could not say anything against the outrage, nor did I pretend to palliate it, but made some inquiries, and such observations that I thought might be useful for the information of those at home, who would endeavour to prevent for the future the British flag from being stained with the charge of still encouraging and supporting slavery in the East.

Of the slaves who came on board the *Saliman Shah* at Mocha, six were girls, and one a boy, two of the former being Christians. I learnt also that Affrano, the little boy mentioned in the beginning of this letter, had been sold to the Sherieff of Mocha, for seventy dollars. Mahomed told me that this was a good speculation of the Ras, or head of our Kafilah, who had received Affrano from the King of Shoa, in part payment of some expenses from the French Government and the stores of M. d'Hencourt, previous to the departure of Captain Harris from that kingdom.

A few days after the vessel left Mocha we reached the port of Hodeidah, where the slave-dealer Mahomed disposed of the boy for forty-five dollars. I do not believe he got so much, for the boy was very ill, and the truth is never to be obtained from an Adal. I left the vessel on her arrival at Jeddah, where it appears the girls were ultimately disposed of, two of the number having previously been landed at Coomfidah, but not sold. I met Mahomed frequently in Jeddah, and he always represented to me how well he had disposed of all the slaves he had brought down himself from Abyssinia with us, not one of which he had left on his hands. On this journey from Tadjourah he had sold, at Mocha, Aderdah, and Jeddah, forty-five slaves in all, Mocha having been his principal market.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Anti-Slavery Reporter.

Her Majesty's steam-vessel Growler,
Pernambuco, September 13th, 1843.

SIR,—I regret to observe from a quotation in the *Anti-Slavery Reporter* of July 26th, 1843, which I have just seen, that in the *Morning Chronicle* of July 17th, insertion is given to a very erroneous statement respecting H.M. steam-vessel *Growler*, under my command, whereby the serious imputation of neglect of an important duty is affixed to my character by an anonymous writer. The paragraph is as follows:—"A few days since, nine hundred slaves were landed at Itamaraca, thirty miles to the northward of Pernambuco, out of a cargo of one thousand shipped by the Brazilian slave-dealers from the opposite coast of Africa. There was no British cruiser in port to intercept her, but we are puzzled to imagine how she could have escaped the *Growler*, British man-of-war steamer, which was spoken on the 25th May by the barque *Persian*, Captain Millman, cruising for slave ships off Pernambuco, in lat. 7°, 20' S. long. 33° 50' W. The commander of the *Growler* had notice that the *Semiramis* and another slaver were on the way to Itamaraca with slaves, and it is to be hoped she will be more fortunate in future."

Now, Sir, the facts are these. The *Temerario* is no doubt the slaver in question, she being the only vessel of that class which has landed slaves on this part of the coast for many months past; but instead of this having taken place a "few days" previous to May the 30th, it occurred April 22nd, at which period the *Growler* was eight hundred miles off, and attached to a different part of the station; and therefore your correspondent need not have been so "puzzled to imagine how she could have escaped the *Growler*," though she did speak the *Persian* in the position stated on the 25th of May.

The *Temerario* entered Pernambuco on the 21st May, after remaining a month at Itamaraca. As to the *Growler* having information of the *Temerario* and *Semiramis* (a vessel I have never before heard of) being on their way to Itamaraca with slaves, the infamous supporters of this inhuman and most cruel traffic are far too well versed in the arts of deception, to allow the destination of their blood-stained vessels to be known on board the *Growler*, or by any other friends of humanity.

The date also of the above piece of information is an evident fabrication; for how could it be known at Pernambuco on May 30th, that the *Growler* had spoken the *Persian* on May the 25th, the latter vessel being on her way to England, and the *Growler* not having communicated with Pernambuco until a fortnight after?

I shall feel obliged by your inserting this explanation in your journal, and also by communicating it to your correspondent,* who, I hope, in future will be less ready to give public circulation to imputations, or injurious surmises, grounded on so slight a knowledge of facts, when aware that the object of the attack is at too great a distance to bring the truth to light in time to avert the poisonous tendency of such insidious accusations.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your very obedient servant,
C. N. W. BUCKLE, Commander.

To the Editor of the Anti-Slavery Reporter.

34, Fenchurch-street, London, 25th Nov., 1843.

SIR,—In your last number, under the head of "Jamaica," appears the following:—

"No WORK.—There is not in this part of the country a sufficient quantity of work to be found for the employment of the people. At Leogan estate, within the last two or three weeks, there have been labourers seeking occupation from Paisley, Palmyra, Millennium Hall, Moor Park, Blue Hole, and Flower Hill. At Leogan the people are only allowed to work three days a week, and this they do at a shilling a day."

The foregoing is an extract from the *Baptist Herald*. Whilst deeply regretting (in common, I am sure, with you) that it can be said labourers

* We merely copied it from the *Morning Chronicle*.

lack work in Jamaica, I am most happy to say that the evil complained of can soon be remedied. If you will kindly let this appear in your columns, which I am sure your feeling towards the labourers will prompt you to do, the editor of the *Baptist Herald*, and others interested, will learn where employment for labourers is to be procured.

The above estates are situated in the parish of St. James, and in the very next parish (Hanover) I can confidently say one person will gladly give employment to 300 labourers at once. This I am sure you will rejoice to hear; and, moreover, as complaint is made that at Leogan the labourers can only get work three days a week, he will enter into an engagement to give the above number constant work for twelve months, six days each week, at 50 per cent. above Leogan rates—say, to able-bodied labourers 1s. 6d. sterling per diem, of nine hours work; or he will let them out job work at rates by which they can earn (as labourers do now earn) 3d. to 4d. per hour. Good and comfortable cottages of two and three rooms each, would be provided them, at a rental of about 1s. per week per house. The wages would be paid weekly, in cash.

The gentleman to whom I allude left England only last month, on his maiden visit, to the isles of the West. His address is James Jenkins, Esq., Old Retrieve Estate, Lucea, and he has under his general superintendence the following properties in Hanover, viz., Alexandria, Argyll, Knockalva, Old Retrieve, New Retrieve, Pell River, New Paradise, and Blenheim.

As a voucher for the truth of what I assert, I annex my name hereto.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

R. J. DAVIS.

Colonial Intelligence.

BARBADOS.—We have heard no complaints against our labouring population. A good understanding between employer and employed continues to exist, and we trust that it will not be interrupted.—*Globe*.

ANTIGUA.—THE WEATHER.—The weather during the past month has been very favourable for the growing crops. We have had an abundance of rain, with agreeable alternations of fine weather, which have afforded ample opportunity for weeding and other seasonable operations. We are happy to hear the most favourable accounts from the country.—*Standard*.

THE CROP.—Notwithstanding the disastrous earthquake, the crop in this island is stated to have not only reached, but exceeded the average. The *Observer* says:—"Up to this day the sugar exported and afloat is nearly 15,000 hhds., besides the usual complement of molasses and rum, and also besides the consumption of the island; and at least 3,000 hhds. sugar yet unmade, or in the curing-houses. When we consider the circumstances in which the island has been placed, this is truly an extraordinary result, and one which is calculated to call forth the liveliest expressions of gratitude to Him, who, whilst his stupendous judgments were abroad to warn and chastise, yet showed mercy."

TRINIDAD.—The *Standard* gives the following excess of the crop of 1843 over that of 1842:—Sugar, 3,505 hhds. Molasses, 2,979 puns.

BRITISH GUIANA.—INCREASE OF CROP.—The most gratifying, and by far the most important circumstance that we have to record, is the marked increase of the crop. The excess of sugar and molasses exported during the third quarter of 1843, as compared with the third quarter of 1842, is—2,521 hhds. sugar, 3,192 casks molasses: or, assuming the hogshead at 1,680 lbs., which is about the average rate of each, as given off at the weigh-master's office, and also taking the puncheon of molasses at 110 gallons, the excess is—4,125,280 lbs. sugar, 351,120 gallons molasses; being, as compared with 1842, at the rate of an increase, calculating the whole year, of 16,501,120 lbs. sugar, 1,404,480 gallons molasses. The increase in rum has also been great. The foregoing facts show a healthy state of things, at bottom, in the colony; and afford much encouragement for the future to all interested in property here.—*Royal Gazette*.

AGRICULTURE.—It is no less consolatory to them to learn that cultivation has, according to the best information procurable on this point, been put in better order or extended this year, and the cost of production has been considerably lessened. This has been effected, not so much by a reduction of wages, but by greater economy in the expenditure of general supplies, and especially in reference to the number and pay of those who may not inaptly be styled the staff-officers of a plantation, doctors, managers, overseers, and foremen. The system of labourers farming land in partnership with the landlord is not progressing very fast; nevertheless, it is likely eventually to become pretty general. At Schoon Ord, the property of the colonial surgeon, Dr. Blair, eight or ten families of farmers are giving satisfaction. The canal excavator is expected to be in operation at plantation Houston in five or six weeks' time. The steam plough on Sir Michael M'Turk's estate is forthwith to be put in order, and set to work.—*Ibid*.

PLANTATION SALES.—Malgre Tout has been sold at the large price of 114,000 dollars. The *Herald* says, "If it will afford any cheering hope to our friends beyond the Atlantic to be so informed, we can state that this sale was attended by many *bond fide* bidders." "This," says the *Berbice Gazette*, "is cheering to us, as well as our friends 'beyond the Atlantic,' as the first sale of a property for twelve months, where anything beyond seventy-five per cent. of its estimated value in 1839 has been offered."

Plantation Sandvoort was sold at execution sale yesterday for 7,000 dollars. A fair price, as the place is entirely abandoned.—*Berbice Gazette*.

"A BILL TO REVIVE SLAVERY."—A most unwise attempt to introduce a new Vagrancy Act has been made. It goes to transfer jurisdiction in cases of vagrancy from the stipendiary justices to the local, to empower any person whatsoever, both constables and private people, to apprehend on charges of vagrancy, and to make the recovery of damages for illegalities committed under colour of its provisions very difficult, if not impossible. It has been, with as much truth as facetiousness, termed "a Bill to revive Slavery," and will not, unless totally altered, become

law. Mr. J. L. Smith is the author, who is not very favourably known in some circles in the mother country, as the virulent persecutor of the ill-starred missionary, his namesake, who was condemned to death, and who expired of disease in prison before the King's pardon could be communicated to him. Unlike Sir Michael M'Turk, who is a favourite with the peasantry, Mr. Smith appears to be incapable of unlearning the bigotry and tyranny of the slave-time.—*Guiana Times*.

THE PEASANTRY.—Petty freeholds are now co-extensive with the male adults of the colony, colony born, and the days of wattled cottages and the trade in troolies are over for ever. Rising around us in every direction, half covered with the luxuriant and ever-green foliage of the plantain and banana, are cottages, the appearance of which speak much of advancing civilization, of easy circumstances, and attention to comfort.—*Berbice Gazette*.

Foreign Intelligence.

UNITED STATES—HARBOURING RUNAWAY SLAVES.—At the present term of the Union County Circuit Court, holden at Liberty, Indiana, Jonathan Swain, a Quaker, was called before the grand jury of the county, to testify in regard to the harbouring of runaway slaves, and the aiding in their escape. He refused to be sworn or affirmed, on account, as he alleged, of conscientious scruples about taking an oath or affirmation. Judge Perry continued him two days under recognizance, before deciding on his case, giving him that time for reflection, and in which to change his determination. At its expiration, however, he remained inflexible, and brought his bible into court to read in his justification. Judge Perry ordered Swain to jail, there to remain until he consented to be affirmed, or was otherwise discharged. Swain gave the court to understand that he should terminate his life there, rather than change, and the sheriff took him off. Another case is to come up tomorrow (Monday) morning. Dr. Casterline (not a Quaker) was called before the grand jury, to testify in regard to the same subject. He refused to give testimony, on the ground that his conscience would not permit him to recognise, in any way, shape, or form, directly or indirectly, property in a human being; that testifying on the subject of runaway slaves would be so recognising it, and therefore he would not do it.—*New York Evangelist*.

SLAVE-PRISON AND MARKET IN BALTIMORE.—But one slave-prison and slave-market now disgraces Baltimore. It is kept by Hope H. Slatter, in Pratt-street, who is represented as very much of a gentleman! Heaven help him! It is regarded as a public nuisance even in Baltimore.—*Philanthropist*.

SLAVES RETURNING.—“The *Sandwich (Canada) Western Express* states that three slaves who had escaped from bondage in the United States, and had been working with the farmers for several months, voluntarily returned to slavery, upon the assurance given by their masters that they should not be sold or punished for their absence. One of them remarked, as he embarked in the ferry boat, that he never knew what hard work was until he came to Canada.” We find the above extract in the *Chicago Express*. We have before heard of such rumours of slaves returning to their masters. One passed through this city about a year ago, going back to Missouri, sick enough of freedom; but it was found in a little time that he had gone back to steal his own wife and children from their master; and being foiled in the attempt, he brought off about a dozen of his acquaintances, who had a desire to “know what hard work was” in Canada, with freedom. But, if the slaves wish to return to slavery, let them do so; not an abolitionist will turn out to stop them going back, as the slaveholders do to Canada. All that we claim for them is, that they may go to Canada or return, just as they please. If the fugitive slaves in Canada are so much disposed to avail themselves of the voluntary principle to return to slavery, would it not be fair to let those at the south go voluntarily to Canada? Possibly one in a thousand might prefer to work for those who paid them for it, even if they did have to work a little harder.—*Western Citizen*.

THE SLAVE-TRADE IN WASHINGTON.—The Washington correspondent of the *Albany Patriot* says, that the new duties on sugar have raised its price all over the country. The price in New Orleans has been rising all the season. This has raised a new demand for slaves in the sugar country, and induced more persons to go into cultivation. Hence the demand for slaves, in the great national slave-mart, has been increased. Last year over 2,000 human cattle were sold in Washington. This year, over 5,000 have already been sold in our dens of diabolism, and many more heart-strings will be broken before the winter sets in, by sundering all the ties of life to meet the demand for human victims in the Louisiana market. In Florida, also, the demand has been greatly increased by the diabolical law to “encourage the armed settlement” of that slavery-cursed territory, and thus increase the political weight of the slave system in the councils of our country. Scenes have taken place in Washington this summer that would make the devil blush through the darkness of the pit, if he had been caught in them. A fortnight ago last Tuesday, no less than sixty human beings were carried right by the Capitol yard to a slave ship! The men were chained in couples, and fastened to a log chain, as is common in this region. The women walked by their side. The little children were carried along in wagons.—*Emancipator*.

TEXAS.—The following announcement from the *Mobile Free Trader* will show that the measure of annexation is fixed upon, and the man to move in it first is already selected. Hear it:—

“ANNEXATION OF TEXAS TO THE U. S.—The *Natchez Free Trader* is now publishing a series of essays in favour of this measure. From that paper of the 8th inst. we make the following extract:—“Our able, eloquent, and influential senator in Congress of the United States, Hon. Robert J. Walker, has ever cherished the annexation as an object dear to his heart. His talents and unwearied exertions will ever, as they have been, be devoted to this new achievement for the country of Washington, and the consolidation of the principles of Jefferson. The very next session of Congress, if his life shall be spared him, he will introduce a bill into Congress for the annexation—a bill embodying the wishes of the entire Anglo-Saxon blood in Texas, as well as of the democracy of the United States. His correspondence with the patriots of the republic of

Texas is more extensive than that of any other gentleman, probably, connected with the United States Government; he is fully apprised of every sentiment in Texas relative to the annexation; he has been on a pilgrimage to the battle-fields of that chivalrous land; his voice has been heard cheering them on to fame and empire in their own legislative halls, which his statue has been decreed to adorn. And who more fitted than he to lead the van of this new triumph in the battle of freedom?”

The battle of freedom! And yet they proclaim to the whole world, that the object of the measure is to secure and extend the domination of slavery!!—*Philanthropist*.

The *Morning Herald* gives the following extracts from the last American papers:—

The *Pennsylvanian Enquirer* says:—“In a late number of our paper we gave some important news, if true, from Texas and Mexico. The items possess more than ordinary interest, especially in connexion with the movements by the *Madisonian* and several other southern journals in favour of the annexation of Texas to the United States. One of the stories from New Orleans is, that General Houston, not long since, held a correspondence with the representatives of the British and Mexican Governments, binding himself to send commissioners to recognise the nominal sovereignty of Mexico, provided that Government would thereupon cede Texas to Great Britain for a consideration! Another is, that an angry correspondence has taken place between General Thompson, the American minister, and the Mexican Government, in relation to the annexation of Texas to the Union. These, we say, are the rumours which came to hand by late arrivals. They should be received with caution, although it is quite apparent that some movement is in progress with reference to Texas and her future destiny.”

The *Houston Telegraph* takes ground in favour of the annexation, and contends that “the territory of Texas belongs to the United States; that it was a portion of the Louisiana territory ceded to the United States by the treaty of Paris under Napoleon; and that the people of the United States are inalienable.”

The *Madisonian* holds the following language:—

“From the most authentic sources we have assurances that the people of Texas earnestly desire the annexation of their country to the United States, and that they are opposed to the designs of Great Britain in regard to abolition, &c.

“That the subject is of the greatest importance to the United States, no one denies; and he or they who may contribute most to the accomplishment of an object so advantageous to the Union, and so anxiously desired by the Texans, will receive the plaudits of the country, both present and future.”

The latter paragraph, the reader will perceive, is significant enough, and in fact urges President Tyler to exert himself to the utmost in favour of the annexation. Similar language has been held by the *Charleston Mercury*, Mr. Calhoun's confidential organ, thus showing a settled purpose upon the subject, by at least portions of the south.

HAYTI.—We take from the *Royal Gazette* of British Guiana, the following account of an important order in Council, adopted on the 23rd of August last:—

“The object of this Order in Council is to give to the ships of the republic of Hayti, the same privileges of trading with the colonial dominions of Great Britain as those which any other foreign country with colonial dependencies of its own, which allows to Great Britain similar privileges of trade with its own colonies as Great Britain extends to it, at present enjoy. These advantages are, the right to such country of importing into any of the British possessions abroad its own produce: and of exporting goods from such possessions to any other country whatever. It will be observed that these valuable privileges are limited solely to such foreign countries, in alliance with Great Britain, as hold colonial territories of their own, and bestow upon Great Britain the reciprocal right of trading in the same ample manner with their own colonies. Such were the terms specified in the Act of Parliament, passed in the third and fourth years of the reign of his late Majesty, for the regulation of “the trade of the British possessions abroad.” Hayti, therefore, which has not a single colony, nothing, in short, of land but herself, would be disqualified from participating in these benefits, were reference merely to be had to the provisions of this Act of Parliament, and had it been followed up by no special intercession or act of grace, upon the part of Great Britain, in favour of this remarkable commonwealth. But a reservation of a general power of this nature was left by Parliament to the Crown; and it has been exercised in this specific way. The liberty of dispensing by an Order in Council with the necessity of a strict compliance with the conditions required by this Act, in favour of any country, was given by this statute to the Crown; and of granting to such state the whole or any part of such privileges as we have named, and enjoyed by the ships of any foreign, though colonial, nation. Thus has it come that Hayti has been made the object of this Order in Council of the 23rd August last.

“The immediate consequences of this act of liberality on the part of our Government, are that Haytian vessels are now at perfect liberty to go and come, to export and import, throughout, among other places, the whole circle of the British West Indies. The benefits to be acquired in the way of trade will, perhaps, be more in favour of Hayti than ourselves. Possibly we shall require more from her than she is likely to demand from us. Yet the commercial advantages to be derived on either side from the interchange of commodities will be trifling, when compared with those likely to ensue to the political condition of Hayti from the opening of our ports to her vessels. We cannot but think that perfect freedom of intercourse will be attended, ere long, with results of no ordinary moment to that country.”

SURINAM LIBERATED SLAVES.—The following particulars are furnished by a Correspondent of the *Guiana Times*:—

“Under the class of human beings, your fellowmen and mine, who are most falsely termed liberated Africans, or free labourers, are comprehended some 700 or 800 souls, negroes brought from the African coast since the conclusion of the slave-trade abolition treaty with Great Britain, in 1818. Among the most remarkable of these, are what are termed the *Leyere*

negroes. The *Legere* was a slaver under the French flag, captured off this coast in the month of September, 1823, by the present admiral, then captain, Sir Thomas Cochrane, who, trusting to the good faith of the Surinam governor-general of the day, from whom he received, in writing, a most positive promise of their being liberated, landed the whole of the unfortunates at Paramaribo, whence most of them were removed to the government establishments. The greater part of them are at this moment located on the wood grounds on the Coppenaam river.

"Respecting these people, the most solemn assurances were given by the minister at the Hague, in the name of the King of Holland, that they should be treated in every respect as free men; which royal promise, I need hardly say, has been kept in nothing save in the bestowal of the nickname of *free workmen*, by way, I suppose, of adding mockery to wrong.

"The *Legere*, as I have above informed you, was taken under the French flag, and, as the treaty with France provides that slavers captured under that flag shall be taken to a French port for adjudication, the vessel and her cargo were demanded by the French minister at St. James's to be given up to his government. It having been proved, however, to his satisfaction, that the papers of the vessel were forged, the French minister relinquished his claim. But, owing to the *Legere* not having been taken under either the British flag or the Dutch, and it never having been precisely ascertained to what nation she really belonged, the Africans on board were not taken before the Mixed Commission, whose powers of adjudication extend only to such slavers, with their cargoes, as are captured under the flags of the respective nations.

"Some cognizance, however, was taken of these people by the British commissioners, who gave their government such representations respecting them, that a letter of thanks was sent by Mr. Canning, then Secretary for Foreign Affairs, to the governor-general, for the manner in which he had received them from the hands of Sir Thomas Cochrane, thereby proving, as he stated, to the satisfaction of the British government, that the Dutch colonial authorities were determined to do every thing that lay in their power to carry into execution the treaty of 1818, for the purpose of putting a stop to the trade in slaves. Mr. Canning was certainly not aware that the very governor, to whom he was paying so unmerited a compliment, habitually received so much money a-head for every slave landed on the coast; and that nothing could have pleased the selfish functionary better than the delivery into his dirty hands of such cargoes as that of the *Legere*, of which he would willingly have received, on the same terms, as many as Sir Thomas Cochrane, or any other officer equally enterprising, could procure for him.

"From the year 1823, these people have remained here, working, and in every respect treated as slaves, subjected to hard labour and to flogging, and in the receipt of no wages, and but a scanty allowance of food, with little or no clothing.

"The history of the other slave-cargoes landed on this coast, and seized by the authorities in consequence of information which they were obliged to attend to, would be little besides a recapitulation of what I have already stated about the *Legere*. Suffice it, then, to mention, that several hundreds more of these wretched people, landed about the same period, have been pining ever since in unjust captivity. In that lamentable state they are likely to remain, unless, by the application of that instrument of legitimate torture, the press, (not the corrupt and miserable broad-sheets of this settlement, but a British press, I mean,) the Dutch authorities here and at home be squeezed into loosing their hold upon the forlorn victims of their oppression."

HOLLAND.—The subject of slavery in Surinam, common report alleges, is about to be investigated by a Commission appointed by the Dutch government. Mr. Gurney's book, "A Winter in the West Indies," has been done into the Dutch language.—*Guiana Times*.

SWEDEN.—The Stockholm *State Gazette* has just published the following ordinance:—

1. Every slave belonging to the island of St. Bartholomew shall possess henceforth the right of acquiring his liberty, on paying the full value of his person. On the same condition he may be enfranchised by any other person whatever.
2. In this case, the value of the slave shall be estimated by three judges, of whom one shall be named by a slave-owner, another by the court of first instance, and the third by the governor of the island. These judges shall consult together, and their conscientious estimate shall be final between the parties, who shall not be allowed to have recourse to any other valuation or opinion.
3. The amount of the valuation of the slave shall be paid to his owner, in the presence of the president of the said court, unless the owner shall grant to the slave himself, or to the person who buys him, further time for payment. In both cases, the president of the court shall deliver letters of enfranchisement to the slave; who, if he continues to owe any sum to his master, shall be considered as an ordinary debtor, and shall be treated in this respect conformably to the common law.
4. All enfranchised slaves shall enter immediately on the enjoyment of the rights possessed by other citizens; they shall be subject to the same charges, and shall be equal with them before the law.
5. No slave shall, without his consent, be sent or taken out of the island, unless condemned to exile by a regular court, in virtue of proceedings conformable to law.
6. Slaves shall be subject to extra-judicial punishments, called domestic chastisements, which shall be determined by the royal ordinance of the 23rd of November, 1823, relating to Swedish servants; and they shall further be subject to imprisonment for eight days, which shall be inflicted on them by the police on the mere demand of the owner. If the fault committed by a slave require severer punishment, and does not fall properly within the cognizance of the courts, such punishment shall not be inflicted without the sanction of the governor of the island.
7. Slaves shall have a right of property in all which they may acquire by gift, by purchase, or by work in their leisure hours. Nevertheless, they shall not possess any fire-arms or munitions of war, which shall always be liable to confiscation whenever found in the possession of a slave. Neither shall they possess any stick or cane without the express consent of their master.

8. In criminal processes slaves shall be admitted as witnesses, whenever they shall produce the certificate of a priest in the island declaring that they are well instructed in the Christian religion.

9. Owners of slaves shall be bound to supply them with healthy and sufficient food, and with suitable clothing. When disputes shall arise on this subject between the slaves and their masters, they shall be decided by the colonial council.

When slaves are sick or aged, their masters shall be obliged to take all necessary care of them, and they shall not be released from this obligation by the enfranchisement of the slaves.

10. Every violation of this ordinance by the owners of slaves shall be punished by a fine of 5 to 100 dollars.

Masters shall be liable to a similar fine who shall have ill-treated their slaves, unless the ill-usage has been such as to render the slave unfit for work. In this case the courts shall give the slave his freedom, and further shall condemn the owner in damages, with a view to the support of the slave during his life. If an owner kill his slave, he shall suffer the penalty attached by law to the crime of murder. The amount of the fines above-mentioned shall be divided between the complainant and the municipal chest.

11. The governor of the island of St. Bartholomew is charged with the protection of the slaves to the utmost of his power, and with seeing that all the measures which the King has ordered in their favour are punctually observed.

ABYSSINIA.—We are assured that the article extracted from the *Bombay Times*, and inserted in our last number, respecting the release of 7,000 Christian slaves by Captain Harris, has no foundation in fact.

Miscellaneous.

THE SLAVE-TRADE.—The brig *Furia*, Capt. Jones Soares Mon-terrie, with 535 slaves on board, was captured in 5 deg. 3 min. north latitude, and 2 deg. 26 min. east longitude, on her way to Brazil, by Her Majesty's brig *Spy*, Lieut. Edward Charles Earle, commander. Three of the slaves died on their passage to this place, and 532 were landed, and taken to the Liberated African department. When the vessel was taken she had neither papers nor colours on board; they had thrown them into the sea. Great joy was manifested by the poor creatures on being brought on shore.—*Sierra Leone Watchman*.

The following is an extract of a letter dated, Her Majesty's ship *Fishguard*, Rio de Janeiro, Sept. 11, 1843:—"The *Frolic* arrived here last night with a slaver she had captured off Cape Frio, having on board 360 slaves, men, women, and children. This slaver was only about double the size of one of our launches, and the poor unfortunate beings were packed in her like so many herrings would be in a cask. It appears that they had been stowed in like this for the space of forty-five days. Death had happily released a great many of them from their torture. But oh! the sight of the living masses of corruption was enough to strike terror into the most flinty heart, as they were covered with sores from head to foot. They were as soon as possible relieved from their forty-five days' prison, being taken out and placed on board the receiving ship for that purpose. You can more easily imagine than I can describe the skeleton frames of these poor wretches, when I tell you that 220 of them were taken at once into our launch, and conveyed to the receiving ship. Our men really sickened at the spectacles they had to behold in the shape of humanity; and I was glad when the last had been taken out, for I never beheld such a sight before. There were among them 50 female children supposed to be under 7 years of age, and 45 males under 10."—*Hants Independent*.

A brig under Spanish colours passed Carlisle Bay, Barbados, yesterday, having on deck on an average between 150 and 200 blacks. To those in the Commercial Hall considerable confusion appeared to prevail on board, and from the unsailor-like manner in which the vessel was managed, it is thought she was a slaver in possession of the unfortunate Africans who once filled her hold. There was no man of war in the bay, and although numbers of persons offered to board the suspicious looking craft, and two vessels were tendered to go out to her, we regret to say that, owing principally to the want of a leader, she drifted to leeward uncommunicated with by any person from the shore.—*Barbados Globe*.

Extract of a letter from Rio de Janeiro, dated 14th Sept., 1843:—"The traffic in slaves on this coast has greatly increased of late; as a proof of which, I need only say that nine cargoes of unhappy beings were safely landed at Campos and the neighbourhood, in the short space of twenty-eight days. One vessel, with 500 blacks on board, being chased by an English cruiser, was deliberately run on the rocks by the captain, who, with the crew, managed to escape; but, horrible to relate! the blacks all perished, with the exception of about thirty, who were dreadfully wounded by being washed on the rocks, and the limbs of many were broken. Oh, when will there be an end of all this misery! The Portuguese schooner, *Tartariga*, was brought in here a few days ago, having been captured by a small boat belonging to the *Frolic* brig of war. The *Tartariga* is a small schooner, of about seventy tons, without even a slave-deck; yet on board this miserable craft 426 blacks were embarked on the coast of Africa, of which number only 330 were alive when she was taken, and many of these were in a dreadful state of disease, the small-pox having broken out on board. The survivors are principally children. During the chase the captain attempted to run down the boat of the *Frolic*, and he would have succeeded, had not the officer in command fired at him. The shot was fatal, though not intended to be so."

TWO WHITE FUGITIVE SLAVES, named Clarke, are lecturing with great effect in Central New York.—*Liberty Press*.

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